

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please enter Amendments (A) through (Q) provided below:

(A) Please substitute the title at Page 1, line 1 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed, with the following title:

INTERNALLY REINFORCED TUBULAR[[-]] SHAPED FOOD CASING COVERING
CONTAINING PROTEIN

(B) Please insert the following headings and paragraph at Page 1, line 3 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the first full paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is being filed under Rule 1.371 as a National Stage Application of pending International Application No. PCT/EP2004/012769, which claims priority to the following parent application: German Patent Application No. 103 60 610.6, filed December 19, 2003. Both International Application No. PCT/EP2004/012769 and German Patent Application No. 103 60 610.6 are hereby incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

(C) Please insert the following heading at Page 1, line 7 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the second full paragraph:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(D) Please insert the following heading at Page 3 , line 6 of the the English translation of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the second full paragraph:

SUMMARY OF ADVANTAGEOUS EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

(E) Please insert the following heading at Page 3, line 21 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed, immediately preceeding the third full paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ADVANTAGEOUS EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

(F) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 7, line 11 and ending on Page 7, line 26 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

In addition to the protein, the coating can comprise further natural and/or synthetic polymers. These are, in particular, polyacrylates, polyvinyl acetates and/or (co)polymers having units of vinyl acetate, a greater or lesser part of the vinyl acetate units also being able to be saponified. These polymers can also have permanently plasticizing properties. Such compounds also termed "primary plasticizers" are, for example, alginates, polyvinylpyrrolidones, quaternary vinylpyrrolidone copolymers (~~@Gafquat~~ GAFQUAT[®]), copolymers with units of vinylpyrrolidone, maleic anhydride, methyl vinyl ether or branched polysaccharides (such as carrageenan). The fraction of the further polymers is generally up to 50 % by weight, preferably 5 to 40 % by weight, particularly preferably 6 to 25 % by weight, based on the dry weight of the casing.

(G) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 8, line 23 and ending on Page 8, line 34 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

To prevent the casing from sticking together in the laid-flat and rolled up state, it can comprise customary additives in minor amounts (i.e. of maximum about 10 % by weight, based on the dry weight of the casing). Such additives are, for example, aluminum silicates, in particular kaolin,

calcium carbonate, silicon dioxide, a PVC pigment, waxes or fatty oils. Other additives can serve for ensuring the desired extent of sausage emulsion adhesion. If the protein fraction is not sufficient for this, then a customary internal impregnation is to be performed, such as, e.g. the formulation comprising 40% ~~®Aquaapel~~ ®AQUAPEL, to achieve a release action.

(H) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 13, line 11 and ending on Page 13, line 12 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.0 kg of epoxidized linseed oil (~~®Edenol~~ ®EDENOL B316 Spezial from Henkel KgaA)

(I) Please substitute the text on Page 14, line 1 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.5 kg of ~~®Edenol~~ ®EDENOL B316 Spezial

(J) Please substitute the text on Page 14, line 19 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.0 kg of ~~®Edenol~~ ®EDENOL B316 Spezial

(K) Please substitute the text on Page 15, line 2 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.0 kg of ~~®Edenol~~ ®EDENOL B316 Spezial

(L) Please substitute the text on Page 15, line 22 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.0 kg of ~~®Edenol~~ ®EDENOL B316 Spezial

(M) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 15, line 33 and ending on Page 15, line 34 of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.2 kg of a 20 % strength aqueous solution of isotridecylpolyethylene glycol ether (~~®Genapol~~
GENAPOL® X-080)

(N) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 16, line 1 and ending on Page 16, line 2 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

43.5 kg of a PVDC dispersion having about 55 % solids fraction (~~®Ixon~~ IXAN® 554)

(O) Please substitute the text beginning on Page 16, line 16 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed with the following replacement text:

1.0 kg of ~~®Edenol~~ EDENOL® B316 Spezial.

(P) Please insert the following text beginning on Page 16, line 26 of the English translation of the Application-as-filed:

As used herein, the terms "insert", "reinforcement" and "reinforcement insert" are used as synonyms, i.e. they have the same meaning, and thus may be used interchangeably.